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MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM OUR MISSION REPORTS.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

Anniversary in Philadelphia—Judge Parsons—Morals in Philadelphia—Our Domestic Missions—Foreign Missions—Rev. Mr. Mattison—Rev. Mr. Chambers—Important Resolutions.

The anniversary meetings of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church have heretofore been held in New York. We learn that the new policy of the Board to hold the anniversary successfully in different, and even distant, cities, has given general satisfaction to the church and friends of missions. In pursuance of this resolution of the Board, the thirty-second anniversary was held, on the evening of May 22d, in the city of Philadelphia, in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church. The Hon. Judge Parsons, of the Presbyterian Church, took the chair, and the exercises were opened with singing by a full choir, and prayer by Rev. G. R. Crooks, pastor of the church. Heber's missionary hymn was then sung by the choir with great effect. The Hon. Chairman then rose and addressed the audience for about ten minutes.

He said that he felt exceedingly honored in being called upon to preside over the present meeting that had assembled to celebrate the thirty-second anniversary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. If there is any place, my friends, where missionary labor is wanted, it is in the city and county of Philadelphia. The state of society is really appalling, and I say it with shame. From the position which I have held in this city for years, I am fully convinced that one hundred thousand out of the four hundred and twenty-five thousand of our population never hear the Gospel preached, never hear a prayer uttered, never read the Bible, and perhaps may never have heard of a Saviour. Such I believe to be the state of the society. It is my opinion that if the city and county of Philadelphia could appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars for missionary purposes annually for five years, more than that amount would be saved to the people in the sustenance of paupers, the administration of the law, and the pay of police officers.

The Secretary of the society was then introduced, and made a rapid and condensed statement of the domestic missions under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He said they naturally divided themselves into three classes: (1.) The missions to those portions of our community which speak the English language. Of these there are 380 missions, served by nearly 400 missionaries. They are in the suburbs and neglected portions of cities, in feeble neighborhoods, and especially in the new States and Territories. The value of these missions is not fully appreciated by the church, because they are not clearly visible to her. Yet they are indispensable to her expansion and stability. (2.) The missions to the Indians. The Methodist Episcopal Church is endeavoring to do her part in this. She has 12 missions and 27 missionaries among the Indians. These are chiefly in the vicinity of Lake Superior, and in the Indian country west of the Mississippi. (3.) The missions to European populations which speak their native languages, and preserve, to a great extent, the customs of their native lands. Our church has been blessed with peculiar access and success in her missions to these European populations, to the Swedes, Danes, Norwegians, French, and Germans, especially the latter. Within sixteen years our German missions in the United States have increased to ten districts, each with its Presiding Elder. In these districts are 107 missions, in which are employed 108 missionaries; and under the care of these missionaries are about 9000 members, formed into regular churches. Some of these churches have built them good houses for public worship, and for Sunday and day schools, and are actively engaged in the circulation of books and tracts, and the spread of the missions among their people. These German missions are the fountain from whence have proceeded our Foreign German Mission, of which I may speak to-morrow evening. In all our domestic missions there are employed about 500 missionaries and assistant missionaries, under whose care are about 43,000 members.

Rev. Mr. Mattison, of Oswego, N. Y., next addressed the audience. He spoke of the object of the Christian mission—to save the souls of men, and to diffuse the blessings of Christian civilization among the benighted nations of the earth; he alluded beautifully and forcibly to the inactivity of the Pagan and Mohammedan nations, with respect to spreading their religions. They were not missionary; they did not bring their Koran and Shasters to Christian lands to confront the Bible with them; theirs was not a religion of faith, of duty to the world, as is the Christian religion; and herein lies the missionary heart of the church—a command was upon her to be missionary—"Go ye into all the world, and preach my Gospel to every creature"—"a necessity was upon her to be missionary"—"she could not accomplish this commission without going abroad; she could not preserve her own life without obeying this command." The Rev. gentleman then went into a comparison of the number of Pagan and Christians in the earth; and a comparison of the number of nominal and evangelical Christians; and, finally, a comparison of the number of the Methodist Episcopal Church with the whole number to whom the Christian missions should be sent, and thus deduced her duty, and the duty of each individual member of the church. These comparisons were well put and effective, and will not soon be forgotten.

The Rev. John Chambers, of Philadelphia, Pastor of the First Independent Presbyterian Church, next addressed the audience. He said, Every Christian is essentially a missionary. It is true that all cannot leave their happy firesides, the society of Christian and loving friends, to perform arduous labors among the Indians, the Africans, or the Mohammedans; but you can, every one of you, contribute your mite for the purpose of sending others among them, who are willing to sacrifice everything—to exchange a happy home for the cheerless comforts of the savage, and to endure the hardships and privations which are the concomitants of a missionary life.

The speaker then, with great truth and force, alluded to the necessity of the diffusion of religion among the masses of the people, in order to the permanency and prosperity of our free republican institutions on Europe, on the world. One passage was beautiful, and of great power. He said, "Our country is the Alpha and Omega of the political world. Through Christianity, America has become a giant; and every time she puts down her foot, the whole earth shakes. The eastern hemisphere feels it; and they look to America for all their hopes of religious and political regeneration. Friends, if this glorious Union is ever disservice, it will be on account of the want of religion in the hearts of the people."

It was now twenty minutes to ten o'clock, and the chairman ordered the collection to be taken. At the instance of the chairman, the Secretary of the society then asked, if the audience desired to make any further expression of their interest in the missionary cause, when Mr. W. P. Hacher rose, and said, he proposed that the members of the Trinity Church should make the Rev. Mr. Hagarty, their late Pastor, a Life Director, by the contribution of \$150. This sum was made up in a few minutes. Mr. A. Cummings rose, and said—We owe much to the land of Luther, and as God hath been pleased to permit the M. E. Church to establish a mission in Germany, in the free city of Bremen, and that infant mission within a year has been so successful as to require a church edifice for its centre and home and for its success, he proposed to raise \$100 toward building the First Methodist Church in Bremen. Over one hundred donors were raised quickly. The chairman and speakers were also made life members during the evening.

Shortly after 10 o'clock Mr. C. A. Walborn rose, and made a very appropriate remarks, showing that there were one hundred persons in each of our thirty Annual Conferences on an average that were able, and if rightly approached, were willing to give fifty dollars a year each. This would make \$150,000, to which if the smaller contributions and public collections, as also the larger contributions, were added, a liberal supply would be had annually for the support and extension of our missions. He concluded by offering the following resolution, which was carried unanimously—

Resolved, That the churches in each Annual Conference contain at least one hundred members and friends of missions who are able and willing to give \$50 each annually; and that the Board of Managers ought to take measures to accomplish such subscription as soon as practicable.

The meeting then adjourned until next evening, at half past seven o'clock, in the Union Church.

ADJOURNED MEETING.

Pres. Allen—Results of Missions—Rev. Mr. Kettell—Rev. Mr. Foster—Propositions.

The meeting by adjournment met Friday evening, May 23d, in the Union Church, at half past 7 o'clock. The audience was larger than the evening before. The chair was taken by President W. H. Allen, of Girard College, and the exercises opened by singing, by a full and powerful choir under the direction of Mr. Samuel Ashwood, and by prayer by Rev. D. W. Bartine. The Chairman, President Allen, then rose and said—

The Committee on Missions have drawn upon us a draft for the sum of \$167,000, and it is for us to say whether we will pay it. He did not know whether he could better express himself than by advertising to a little matter of history. At a time when William Tell thought it necessary for the deliverance of his country that a certain lake should be crossed, a furious storm was raging; and the boatman said it was impossible to cross. "I know not," said he, "whether it is possible to cross the lake or not, but I know it must be done." Now it is not for us to say whether it is possible to raise the amount of money required by the General Committee for carrying on our missions; but we should say like Tell, it must be done. We liked the confidence which the Committee reposed in the laity of the church, and which they have shown in making this demand. He believed that the draft would be accepted, and that it would be paid at maturity. He never knew the Methodist Church to fail in making up any amount that was required to build up the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the present instance he felt assured that the church would not fail. The Committee have said our missions this year require so much; they have pledged their faith for the amount, and we shall redeem it. There are others who say that the harvest does not pay for the seed and culture. We have, my friends, just commenced to sow the seed, and the harvest cannot come for awhile. Time is an important element in human things, but not so with God; with him one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day. If it took four thousand years to prepare the world for Christianity, certainly we should not complain of a single age in missionary effort, without such fruit as our hearts desire. The husbandman waits long for the harvest." It was 300 years after Paul preached to the heathen before Christianity ascended the throne in the person of Constantine; and nearly 400 before a vote could be obtained in the Roman Senate for the formal recognition of Christianity, and the extinction of those pagan rites with which the administration of the Empire had been surrounded.

Rev. J. P. Durbin, Secretary of the society, was then called on for a statement of our foreign missions. He said—

The Chairman has justly taught us to wait in hope for the fruits of missions. We will do so, but we must not forget that rest is in the 19th century are obtained much more rapidly than they were in the first centuries. The fruits of Protestant Missions among the heathen within the last fifty years have been the employment of 2000 ministers as missionaries, aided by 7500 assistant missionaries. These have gathered 4000 churches among the heathen; and in these churches are 250,000 members and 3000 schools, in which are 250,000 pupils learning the religion of Jesus. The missionaries have put in circulation 32 millions of copies of Holy Scripture and other evangelical books. Will not these results compare with the results of the apostolic mission among the heathen during the first fifty years of the Christian era?

The Secretary then made a rapid review of the foreign missions under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He concluded by saying, sixteen missionaries with their families had been sent to foreign stations the past year; and the income of the society had been a little over \$133,000, and its expenditure a little over \$131,000. He referred to the forthcoming Report of the Board of Managers for more detailed information.

The Chairman introduced the Rev. Mr. Kettell, late of New York. The reverend gentleman in a very terse, yet beautiful and forcible manner, pointed out the peculiar capabilities and fitness of the American people, and particularly the Protestant churches in America, to prosecute the foreign missionary work. Our daring enterprise and restless activity which impel us to carry our commerce to every nook and corner of the world; our available wealth so diffused among the masses of the people; the influence of our political and social institutions upon nations of the earth, all facilitate our missionary enterprises. Everything connected with us at home and abroad promise us success in the missionary cause. It is not in our power to sketch accurately the apposite points in the forcible remarks of the gentleman.

When he had concluded the choir sang an an-

them with fine effect; and then the chairman introduced the Rev. Mr. Foster, from New York, who said—

If religion is a want of humanity, God has created the means of satisfying that want. What happy country possesses that divine religion? Do you find it among the 300,000,000 Chinese Pagans, the 200,000,000 heathen Indians, or the 50,000,000 South Sea Islanders? When we ask ourselves the question, "Where is it to be found?" it causes our bosoms to heave with mingled emotions of joy and sorrow. We pause to reflect. Friends, it is here! It is among a few other Christian nations! It is a fact that God committed his holy religion to you. Why did he do it? That you might keep it in your own country and monopolize its blessings? Have the 600,000,000 Pagans so claim upon it? Can they live without it? Are we to retain it among ourselves, or to distribute it abroad with a munificent hand? Remember, my Christian friends, that 1800 years ago our Lord committed it to the church, and left to his followers these injunctions—"Go ye into all the lands and preach it in the cities and the highways, until every nation and every family have felt its influence."

It is a question of great importance, to ask ourselves, how that divine commission and holy trust have been discharged. Fifty generations have passed away since the time when Christ walked the earth, and gave his doctrines to the world. Do we not speak of the past? Can we, friends, to superinduce discouragement for the present. More than 30,000,000 have passed away since then without the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour. Only pause and reflect! Then after reflecting a moment, how awful is it to think how our account will stand with God at the great day. The duty of sending Christianity into the world devolves on the Protestant church. If the church has anything which ought to concentrate her powers and enlist her affections, it is the foreign missionary cause. A world is lying in a state of wickedness! The absolute fact is that 600,000,000 souls are now living without the bread of life, and the church must send the Gospel to these perishing millions. You should throw all your energies into this glorious struggle for everlasting life; and hand it down to your children, and teach them the importance of propagating the truth.

The world will be evangelized in less than one hundred years from the present time if the church is only true to herself. Then the colossal statue of paganism will have tottered to their fall; then the vast fields of infidelity will have been re-ploughed, and sown with the seeds of Protestantism.

At the instance of the chairman the secretary asked for the collection, and when it was returned in the baskets, he asked whether the audience had anything further to propose. Mr. White, man rose and said, some friends of our worthy and long-tried Brother John Wilmer desired to make him a life director by the contribution of \$150. It was done in a few minutes. In rapid succession the chairman and speakers, and some other clergymen not present, among whom was the Rev. T. J. Thompson, late pastor of the church, and some ladies were made members of the society by the payment of \$20 for each one. The Alexander Cummings, Esq., arose and said—

It is time, Mr. President, to take up the business upon which we adjourned last night, which, as you know, was the question of raising funds to aid in erecting a place of worship for the infant, struggling church in Bremen, with a view, ultimately, to make an entrance into the heart of Germany,—that land so glorious in recollections of the past, and so full of hope for the future. It is proposed now that Philadelphia shall be answerable, at the close of the present year, for the funds necessary to complete the building in Bremen, provided the churches in our sister city of New York will do the same for the church in the China mission.

At this point the secretary rose and said, "This proposition springs from the laity. I doubt not but that if the churches in Philadelphia will answer at the close of the missionary year, for the funds to enable the Board to authorize the building of the church in Bremen, the churches in New York will answer in like manner for the building of a church in China. The effect of the proposition will be, not to suspend the contributions now going on in the churches and Sunday Schools in the East and West for the building of these churches; but to assure the Board of Managers at New York that they may proceed to authorize the building of the churches; as what-ever is lacking at the end of the Conference year, in the contributions made out of Philadelphia for the church in China, the churches in New York will make up in the first case, and the churches in New York in the last case."

With this understanding the resolution was heartily and unanimously voted.

These anniversary meetings will long be remembered in Philadelphia, and the spirit and blessed effects of them will not soon pass away.

For the Herald and Journal.

"TWELVE EFFECTIVE BISHOPS."

MR. EDITOR:—As your proposition to "strengthen the Episcopacy" in our church so as to give it at our next General Conference the services of twelve effective men," is apparently almost universally popular, and as no one to our knowledge, has attempted to discuss the converse of your proposition, you will permit an old conservative (?) who has had too large an experience, in his day, with the unpopular side of questions of public interest, to be very seriously disturbed in taking such a position, to state the argument against you; which, with your leave, we will do as briefly as possible. We maintain the inexperience of this twelve Bishop measure.

1. On the ground that we have not work for twelve effective men in the Episcopal office in our church. Should the Annual Conferences be increased in number at the next General Conference to thirty-six, which is quite probable, even then the labor devolved upon each Bishop will be simply that of attending and exercising a general superintendency over but three Annual Conferences. This would give us two Bishops for the New England Conferences; consequently Maine, New Hampshire and East Maine Conferences would be assigned to one. The natural course of things would be on such a supposition, that the work would be divided, and each Bishop would be assigned to his field of three Conferences, and reside within their limits. Now let us see how this will work. Suppose that the three Eastern Conferences named, be assigned to one Bishop, and that he reside at Portland as the most central point of communication from any part of this field. The incumbent of this office would have to be a man who is now within the limits of this field or out of it. We know the

men who would be likely to be candidates for the office within the field, and though our acquaintance with the leading ministers of our church is by no means very limited, we know of no available candidate for the office out of this field which we would prefer to those we have among us. Well, then, suppose the office to be filled by one of the P. Elders in one of these three Conferences, as they would probably have as fair claims to consideration in respect to the office as any other men among us. Take that man from his present field of labor, clothe him with the Episcopal office and authority, and locate him at Portland, the central point in this field. Soon our people in that goodly city would begin to inquire, (for we are all Yankees) "What is our Bishop doing?" The answer must be, he attends the sessions and stations the preachers in the three Eastern Conferences. Then it is inquired, "How long does it take him to do this work? for we see him here nearly all of the time." The answer must be, "It takes him about three weeks in a year." "What, leaving 49 out of 52 weeks in each year unemployed in his leading official work?" Yes. Again, it is inquired, "How much does he receive for his services?" The answer must be, if he have a moderate family, \$1000 annually at least.

The Bishops of the Church South receive "What is our Bishop doing?" The answer must be, he attends the sessions and stations the preachers in the three Eastern Conferences. Then it is inquired, "How long does it take him to do this work? for we see him here nearly all of the time." The answer must be, "It takes him about three weeks in a year." "What, leaving 49 out of 52 weeks in each year unemployed in his leading official work?" Yes. Again, it is inquired, "How much does he receive for his services?" The answer must be, if he have a moderate family, \$1000 annually at least. The Bishops of the Church South receive "What is our Bishop doing?" The answer must be, he attends the sessions and stations the preachers in the three Eastern Conferences. Then it is inquired, "How long does it take him to do this work? for we see him here nearly all of the time." The answer must be, "It takes him about three weeks in a year." "What, leaving 49 out of 52 weeks in each year unemployed in his leading official work?" Yes. Again, it is inquired, "How much does he receive for his services?" The answer must be, if he have a moderate family, \$1000 annually at least.

But the objector says, "His whole time will be taken up in vigilant, active pastoral labor and oversight throughout his extended diocese?" In reply we inquire, what is meant by this "pastoral labor and oversight?" Is it to do any part of the official work of the P. Elders? No; for he has no ecclesiastical right to do that. He has not the pecuniary means to pay this number of men, but we do assert that it would be impracticable to pay them under the circumstances with which they would be surrounded. The amount that would be required to pay the salaries of these men would be, at a very low estimate, at least \$12,000. Now where is this \$12,000 coming from every year? It may be replied, that it will come from the same source from which the salaries of our superintendents have always come, viz., from the profits of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund and monies raised for superannuated preachers. The Book Concern is the principal resource. This institution has during the last four years divided its profits among our thirty Annual Conferences, and given to each the sum of from \$300 to \$600 annually. Suppose the aggregate sum which each Conference has received during this time to be \$400 a year, the aggregate annual sum which the three Conferences have received, has been \$12,000; a sum this which would just pay the salaries of the twelve Bishops at the very low estimate we have named. In view of the constitutional provision, that the produce of the Book Concern and Chartered Fund shall be appropriated to any other purpose than for the benefit of the travelling, supernumerary, superannuated and worn out preachers, their widows and children," it has been seriously doubted whether it is not a violation of the constitution of our church to meet the annual claims of our Bishops, and pay the expenses of the delegates to the General Conference out of the profits of that establishment as we have been accustomed to do, and also a serious violation of public confidence, as it is understood that these funds are obtained for another purpose; but if we proceed to pay the salaries of twelve effective men from that source besides the claims of the superannuated Bishops, and pay \$10,000 dollars every four years to defray the expenses of delegates to the General Conference, and thus exhaust the entire annual profits of that Concern for these extraneous objects, would not the original intention of that constitutional provision be entirely defeated? So gross and palpable a violation of the constitution would this be, that we are persuaded no General Conference could be induced to consent to it. But if this resource should fail or be deemed unconstitutional, as it undoubtedly would, how should we pay our twelve effective men? Could the members of the Annual Conferences hand over a contribution of \$12,000 dollars a year from their stipended allowances for this object? They certainly could not. Our only resource, then, is to make an appeal to our people. But in order to succeed in this we must make out a case. We must state the facts as they are, as the only appropriate basis of our appeal. And if we should have the questionable prudence not to do it, and attempt to succeed without it, our people would catch us and draw them out, and when the facts involved in the case, as stated above, were fairly before them, it does not need much sagacity to see that the way would be promptly and effectually closed against our receiving a farthing from this source. We reiterate our remark, therefore, that it would be impracticable under the circumstances named to pay the salaries of these twelve effective men in the Episcopal office.

In conclusion, we remark, that if it is true, as we think it is, that we have neither work nor pay for "twelve effective men" in the Episcopal office in our church, the General Conference of 1852 will hardly deem it either "wise or prudent" to place so many men in that office, if indeed twelve effective men could be found to accept of it under such circumstances. Winthrop, Me., May 28. M. HILL.

We have so much personal regard for our correspondent that we are disposed to receive quite good humoredly his elaborate dissertation, notwithstanding his occasional irrelevant and sideling comments, some of which we have eliminated; but we must be permitted to remark, that he has repeated the common propensity of newspaper writers to seize on an unimportant, incidental aspect of a subject for a vast amount of plausible remark, while the main and only important proposition is lost sight of. Our main proposition has been, the propriety of a judicious reinforcement of the Episcopacy—we have not insisted upon a specific number—we know not ourselves what number we should approve—that would depend upon the circumstances of the church at the next General Conference. In a single line we remarked that we thought twelve effective men would not be too much, but in connection with that intimation and after long discussion of the general subject, we stated distinctly that "we

have said nothing thus far of the number of superintendents which our work demands. This is not an important point in the discussion." But a good brother confounds our proposition for a judicious reinforcement of the Episcopacy to be determined by circumstances, with a mere incidental intimation; and the numerical value of that intimation is made the substantial value of all our late articles on the subject. He even gives it quite the shape of a formula, as the "Twelve Bishop Measure." Really, we don't recognize it under this form; we know not that we should not rather vote for Dr. Elliott's intimation of eight, or our brother editor Robie's intimation of thirty. That's quite a contingency yet, though we think good policy and good enterprise would justify twelve. All we contend for is to make the Episcopal office what it was once, and was designed always to be, a superintendency, not a mere Presidency at Annual Conferences—have enough Bishops to "travel" as the Discipline requires, "through the connection at large, and oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the church." Let the church be able to see and appreciate their presence in its great interests otherwise than in the mere annual appointments. You had five men to do this twenty-five years ago—now that the church has doubled in most of its great responsibilities you have but the same number; do you not need enlargement? That's the point, and the only point material to the question; and in inviting brethren to examine it we invite them to look at it simply as a matter of common interest to our common cause, and not confound it with any merely incidental intimations—any unimportant personal suggestions which may be dropped in the course of their discussions.

Our arguments on the main question have heretofore been so detailed that we need not further elaborate them. Bro. Hill must excuse us for replying to him in brief: that,

1. On the plan of Drs. Elliott and Simpson, two of the Bishops it is proposed to assign to the trans-Atlantic and Pacific missions, which would abstract at once one sixth of the number he refers to from our domestic field; and it might be found that our increased and constantly enlarging home work would require the remainder.

2. His arguments on the three Eastern Conferences is irrelevant—there can be no exact mathematical apportionments. Some Western Conferences are individually as large almost as the three he mentions—while one Bishop might suffice for the six New England Conferences, two might be necessary for as many in other sections of the church.

3. His remarks on the lack of sufficient labor, and the complaints of partiality in that labor, as supposed in the case of his Portland metropolitan, could be presented with much more plausibility, could be supported by the light by a good logician. Who doubts that a Bishop could find sufficient and glorious work among our New England Conferences, and that discreetly doing what he deemed most important, among strong or feeble churches, he could carry with him the good feelings of the church? If his presence should render a less number of Presiding Elders necessary, that need not injure the Presiding Elders, but only increase the popular content with them.

4. The views of Episcopal support given we deem equally irrelevant. If twenty-five years ago we supported our present number of Bishops, it is certainly remarkable that we cannot support double that number, or more, now that we have grown so vastly. The constitutional question of their support from the Book Room is as relevant to the present number as to a larger one. In fact this question of Episcopal support among us is one of the crude things in our system which needs thorough revision, and must inevitably have it before long. The support of our Bishops must, like that of our other preachers, be entrusted to the people, and we soberly believe that the reinforcement of the Episcopacy so as to make it more appreciable to the people, will be one of the best means of securing its support by them. So far as their support by the Book Concern funds would abstract from the resources of the superannuated preachers, &c., we believe it is the opinion of the church generally, and the sooner it would cut off that resource the better. The Book Concern is considered a decided disadvantage to these numerous and deserving claimants. We do not enlarge on these points, for we wish not to stickle for "favorite details"—we urge merely the general question. In fine, what we want in this respect, as in all others connected with Methodism, is to advance—to enlarge. And we think the inquiry should not be, how little progress can we make, but how much; and if we devise liberal things we shall find liberal resources in the church for them and blessed results from them. It is very easy to talk about clerical evils, prodigal expenditures, idleness, useless dignities, &c., but is there a thoughtful man among us who fears them under the present circumstances of our cause? Such liabilities are certainly too remote to be set off for a moment against any measures of energy or enterprise which we may contemplate.

For the Herald and Journal.

NOTHING OVER—NOTHING SHORT—NOTHING FORMED—NOTHING IN VAIN.

Such are the ways and works of God, it can truly be said, "there is nothing formed in vain," "all his works are perfect." The following paragraph of a certain writer reminded me very forcibly of this fact. "If we had to fix upon a portion of scripture which might be removed from our Bible without being much missed, we should probably select the first nine chapters of the first book of Chronicles. They seem at first sight a mere record of names, a catalogue of genealogies over which the eye glances rapidly, and we are inclined, like the traveller whose journey lies through the sands of the desert, to hasten on, as if there was nothing worthy of examination. Yet, amidst those sands, there is now and then a verdant spot; some oasis where we may pause and refresh ourselves, and perhaps some spring where we may slake our thirst." Thus it is with all the providences, circumstances and incidents in human life. They must all be kept together in order to make a great whole. God has lessons for us to learn in them all. In reference to the Bible, among those portions especially which may seem uninteresting to the indifferent and careless, may be found much that is truly instructive, salutary and refreshing to the pious and prayerful reader. These lessons are like the gems scattered amid the rocks or sands of the desert. In those nine chapters just referred to, may be found the brief, yet comprehensive and effectual prayer of Jabez. It is as follows: "And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, O that thou wouldst enlarge my coast, and enlarge my coast, and that thy hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me." And God granted him that which he requested.

O, to be "blessed indeed!" To have our "coast" or sphere of labor and usefulness "enlarged;" that "God's hand might be with us" in all that we do, and that we may be "kept from evil," from all sin, is truly a great thing! God granted the request of Jabez. God is still the same unchanging, Almighty Being. O, that with a fixed purpose of heart we may resolve in like manner to come to God in prayer, and like Jabez have our request granted. Then shall we see, and hear, and know that all the ways and dealings of God with us are perfect. Then shall we be prepared to learn lessons of instruction from every passing event; then shall we find in deserts a high way of holiness and usefulness; yea, we shall always recognize the hand and feel the presence of Him, who hath said, "Lo, I am with you always!" B. S.

Herald and Journal.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1851.

REV. T. C. PEIRCE.

Our readers have been informed of the decease of this beloved brother of our ministry. He died in Quincy, Dec. 5, 1850. He early removed to N. Hampshire, where he says in a manuscript account of himself, "I first heard the Gospel rightly preached. At the first meeting I attended 800 persons were forward for prayers—scores, if not hundreds, were converted to God around me."

"My conversion," he adds, "took place soon after I was 12. Up to the time of my attending that meeting I was a wicked lad, ignorant of the nature of experimental religion, and never to my recollection knelt in prayer in my life. For the first time I sought a place of retirement. In a valley by the side of a log I cried, 'God be merciful to me a sinner.' It was some time before I obtained a satisfactory evidence of pardon. I remember the place; it was on the side of a hill. I had been reviewing my mercies; I engaged in prayer, and sung, 'O, how happy are they, &c.' That is a memorable period; it was a happy hour. Light had penetrated my dark mind; grace had softened my hard heart, my sins were blotted out, and I knew it and was joyful. A great change took place in my conduct; in my habits all was new."

He subsequently declined from his first love, but never lost from his heart the fear of God. He returned to the city of Boston, and came under the ministry of the Methodist. He writes:—

"In the autumn of 1807, I heard a travelling preacher from Newburyport preach; my mind was deeply affected; retaining some I retired to a lonely place to pray; my impressions were deepened. The next day while at my business, the meeting of the previous evening came up in my mind, and something like the following thoughts were suggested to me: 'It is time for you in God's earnest to set out in the Christian cause, for you have got to preach the Gospel. My heart rose up in opposition; I preach like that I heard last night, and have to travel about without a home or a prospect of anything but trials in this world? No, I will never be a Methodist preacher. My religious feelings were gone almost in an instant, and I was left hard and cold. O what mortal suffering I endured, yet it pleased a merciful God to show mercy to me the most unworthy. But my evidence was not as clear as before—it was faint hope, but I indulged it. My evidence increased, my way became pleasant, and for months my peace was like a river. I felt it my duty to engage in vocal prayer in public. O what a cross! Sometimes I neglected it, and when I commenced I could hardly connect two sentences together, but by persevering I obtained greater liberty, and that from that time to this I do not know that I have declined duty, and I have been blessed in it. Not long after my mind became clear, I was baptized in the church by Father Pickering, and I believe I was the first of our denomination to ever preach in this town. I remained a little more than a week, preaching every night on Sabbath at the Court house, which was crowded; a great awakening followed, and many were converted."

In 1810, he commenced public labors as a local preacher in South Boston. He was so successful there that he "erected with his own hands a place of worship in that part of the city. It held about 150 hearers and was the germ of Methodism at South Boston."

"In the winter of 1811, 1812, I journeyed," he writes, "as an itinerant. The first stop I made was in Worcester. I was invited by a brother who had been benefited by my labors to preach in his house. We had no preaching house in this place, and I believe I was the first of our denomination to ever preach in this town. I remained a little more than a week, preaching every night on Sabbath at the Court house, which was crowded; a great awakening followed, and many were converted."

He continued his excursion far up into New Hampshire, and preached with much success. He purchased the remaining time of his apprenticeship, studied and worked hard, and by the Conference of 1814, was out of debt, and equipped with horse, saddlebags and a watch, and ready to take the field as an itinerant. He was recommended to the Conference by the Brethren of St. John, and received that year; and here commenced that career of evangelical labor and usefulness with which we are all too familiar to need a detailed account. Many incidents of adventure, of suffering and of success could be related from the history of his itinerant life, but this is not the place for them. Hereafter, and in another form they may yet appear. Suffice it to say, that he endured the severest hardships of our early ministry, that he preached ever as if he felt it an honor to endure them for his Master's sake, and that no man ever heard from his lips words of murmuring or words of cowardice respecting the sacrifices and difficulties of his work.

Much might be said of the character of "Father Peirce." That character would be a delightful theme to dwell upon, for it was peculiarly rich in the genial virtues. He knew by experience the inexpressible consolations of the Gospel, and in his preaching was pre-eminently a son of consolation. He loved to exhibit in his discourses Christ in all his offices and in all his sufficiency, and he thus won rather than drove men to the faith.

As a preacher, he was above mediocrity. He occupied our best stations, and this was the case too in the latter part of his life. There is a noticeable significance in this fact. For several years he has served our cause in or about the metropolis, and with great acceptance and usefulness—it may be doubted whether many men of equal age among us could have sustained his appointments with superior or equal success. There were three principal reasons of his success; the first, doubtless, was his genuine Christian goodness, his truly "lovable" Christian character; the second, was the vivacity of his manner, he was never dull, the truth always burned in his heart and in his speech—he was illustrative, hortative, persuasive—abounded in anecdotes, in apt allusions, in sharp but always kindly thrusts at prevailing vices, and his manner, always colloquial though fervent, would not allow of dullness or inattention among his hearers; the third was an hearty and ardent philanthropy, largely constitutional with him, which prompted him to energetic labors for the poor, the interperate and the unfortunate of all conditions. His character in the last respect was luminous. It was soon recognized in all his appointments; it threw around him the sympathies and love of good men, and the respect and confidence of evil men; it silenced the mouth of the scorner or the critic as with a spell of dumbness, and it opened doors of usefulness to him on every hand. We could give affecting examples, but there would hardly be an end to the narrative.

Such was our beloved and lamented friend and brother. He was a special example of what success may be achieved by the force of character, notwithstanding the absence of conspicuous talent.

During the late decline of his health he occasionally favored us with a call at our office, and his conversation was always about the interests of the church—the primitive times of her conflicts and triumphs, and his prospect of soon meeting his old fellow laborers in heaven. The last but not one of these interviews was peculiarly precious. Our little sanctum became a sort of temporary levee feast, though none but our mutual friend Thomas Patten, Esq., his old associate in the early struggles of Methodism in Boston, were present. The conversation related to the power of simple faith and the possibility of the Christian's walking with God as did Enoch, so as to have habitually "this testimony that he pleases God." Our departed friend spoke with emphasis and delight on the subject; he had the testimony that he was thus enabled to live from day to day—that even the occasional vicissitudes of his Christian life in former years were gone, and he now found it possible to live "with Christ in God," so as to have no fears, no anxiety about death or life, no will as distinguished from the will of God.

His son, Rev. B. K. Peirce, writes us that the subject of death has for years been a constant topic of conversation with him. The doctrine of the resurrection was one of his choicest subjects of pulpit discussion and fire-side conference. Scarcely six months for a number of years, have passed without the occurrence of some severe attacks of disease which threatened his immediate dissolution. Many of these occasions were seasons of peculiar triumph. He has often said, he would not turn his hand to determine the question of life and death.

He conversed freely with his sons during the last days of his life, in reference to his earnest longing for release from mortal pains and admission to immortal joys. He said "the future looked altogether bright. He had no anxieties. He wanted to go. He only feared that he might exhibit impatience at the delay of death. He seemed to be very near heaven; so near, that he seemed to him that he could almost stretch out his hand and grasp those of Pickering, Merrill, Lindsey, and others who have lately gone to his reward."

He remarked at the late New England Conference that he had looked forward to the session with great interest, and had made much effort to be present. He had no expectation of meeting his brethren again in Conference. He felt that he was nearly home. He was waiting for the summons to go. He had no fears, or doubts in reference to the future. Death possessed no terrors to him. He had often preached about the supports of religion in affliction and upon the approach of death, but within the last few months he had tested them; they had not failed him. The doctrines he had preached in his life he now as firmly believed, and relied upon them with unwavering faith in the daily expectation of death. He loved the church, her doctrines and discipline. He had been treated kindly during his connection with the itinerant ministry. He had no complaints to make. If he had the opportunity of renewing his life again, with all the incidents, labors, sufferings and poverty, he would be a itinerant minister, and preach whenever he had opportunity, the same Gospel which he had proclaimed for the last forty years.

Mr. Peirce went to heaven on Sunday morning, 24th of May, and on Tuesday following his obsequies were celebrated at the Lynn Common Church. Addresses were delivered with much feeling and appropriateness by Bro. King and Tucker. A large throng attended the services, and a numerous portion of his ministerial brethren followed him to the cemetery, where sleep Mudge, Lindsey, Downing, and others who are dear to the church, and whose uprising on the morning of the resurrection will make glorious the spot where they lie. On last Wednesday evening a large congregation attended at Bromfield St. Church, in this city, and heard interesting addresses on his character and services, from Rev. Messrs. Tucker, Porter, A. D. Merrill, and E. T. Taylor.

THE HIGHER LAW.

The Unitarian paper of Boston, (the Christian Register) had recently a long and powerful article on the Black Law versus Higher Law controversy. This paper represents the highest class of minds among us, and it speaks in a tone of both dignity and bravery belittling its position. It says: "The first and most fatal position taken in this great controversy is the virtually assumed, and sometimes the expressly declared denial of any binding authority, or rule of action higher than the law of the land. The ridicule that has been heaped on the very word 'conscience,' and on what in derision has been called the 'higher law,' is to us one of the saddest features in the whole matter. No attempt is made by the public men to reason the matter out on ethical grounds, or to reconcile the law to the moral and religious convictions of our citizens. Legal authorities are held up over us, and by those who sit upon the bench, as all that need to be considered. But they who undertake to inform the public mind, and prepare the way for an unpopular law, instead of showing how we may obey and enforce it without violating the most solemn principles which have been instilled into our minds from childhood, begin by scoffing at the principles themselves, and branding them as 'prejudices' which we must overcome." Instead of enlightening and directing the conscience of the community, they attempt to override and break down the authority of conscience itself, either by ignoring its existence, by ridiculing its claims, or by contemptuous assertions respecting its insufficiency and weakness."

This is well said, and reasonable. Were we to judge from the current language on this subject, we should suppose that the religious sentiment and the very conscience of the country were expiring. But, notwithstanding the rampant demagoguism of the hour and the virtual recantation of a portion of the pulpits, there is yet in the large soul of the people the inextinguishable power of conscience, and it will yet show itself. The immoral sophisms of the moment cannot last; time and reflection will explode them, and explode with them the wretched funkyness that now degrades even itself by supporting them.

THE FRIENDS.

The yearly meeting of Friends was in session in Philadelphia, from the 12th to the 16th ult. About one hundred and twenty representatives of male Friends were in attendance. The women's meeting was much larger. The meeting was occupied principally with a concern for the preservation of the ancient testimonies, order, doctrine, principles, and discipline of the sect. Merismism, pretended conversations with the "spirit world," &c., &c., were deprecated as totally unworthy of a rational, intelligent being, and Friends were warned to regard these superstitions with abhorrence. The large committee appointed a year ago, on the subject of education, was continued. The report this year requested Friends everywhere to exert their efforts to make all the schools under the care of the society equal to, and superior to the public schools. Friends everywhere were earnestly desired faithfully, consistently, and steadily to maintain their ancient testimony against slavery, and all its concomitant evils; and as they had received epistles from all the yearly meetings with which they correspond, the clerk was directed to embody this exercise in all the epistles to other yearly meetings.

OUR MISSIONARY REPORT.

We learn from the Missionary Secretary that the thirty-second Annual Report will be distributed by the time this notice appears. "We have published," he writes, a larger edition than usual, that we may be able to supply not only each minister, but also the principal friends of missions who have shown themselves such before the church and the world. We cannot know these, but will be pleased to send a copy to any one such whose name and address our brethren in the ministry, or any other responsible person, may furnish to us. We trust the Report will repay the expense and trouble of postage and perusal. We should be pleased to have the names of our principal friends as above. We do not wish to distribute the report inconsiderately, so as to have it lie as a dead letter in the post office or elsewhere. We think it deserves a better fate. Hence we wish the information asked for above, in order to distribute it wisely and profitably."

THE PROPERTY SUIT.

Our reports of this important case have been condensed, but are quite full, and afford an adequate estimate of it. The Papers put various constructions upon it in respect to the probable result. The New York Commercial inclines to think it favorable to the South; the New York Express, as we quoted last week, thinks that the strict legal construction of the case is in favor of the North, though equity should require an affirmation of the property. This, it says, is the general opinion. We think the hesitancy of the judges to decide the case on account of anticipated agitations, shows which way their judgment leans. They know that the North, like good citizens, will abide quietly the result; the only danger is from the rampant, heedless and lawless spirit of slavery in the South.

Whether the advice of the Bench to decide the contest by arbitration is practicable, seems to be a question. We know not why. The arrangements of the last General Conference, in prospect of the case, provide for an arbitration. One of the resolutions reads, "that should the agents find, upon taking such legal counsel, that they were not the power to submit the case to voluntary arbitration, they should a suit at law be commenced by the commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, said agents are hereby authorized, then and in that case to tender said commissioners an adjustment of the referred claims by a legal arbitration, under the authority of the Court."

The Christian Advocate says that our agents have resolved under this direction to offer to adjust the question by arbitration. A complete report of the trial, conducted in both parties, will be issued immediately.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.

Two very important denominational documents have just been issued by our Book Agents, and are on hand at Peirce & Co's, Boston. They are the annual reports of our Sunday School Union, and of our Missionary Society. They exceed in interest this year any preceding issues. They are an honor to the church, and we hope they will be read by every preacher if not every member. They ought to be scattered broadcast.

The Miner's Journal says \$100,000 is expended annually in the borough of Pottsville for rum!

DEDICATION OF THE MATTHEW STREET M. E. CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Rev. Mr. Patten's Sermon—The Society—Its History—Its new Chapel.

This event took place, Wednesday, May 28. The day itself was one of those genial summer days, such as only a benevolent Providence could give. The exercises were appropriate and impressive, and passed off to the satisfaction of all concerned. Brother Patten preached the sermon, and it was, if possible, even better and more impressively delivered than his ordinary efforts. It was founded upon Psalm 87: 3: "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God." It spoke at large of the excellency and benefits of the church of God, shown from its present condition, its past triumphs, and its future prospects. These glowing themes were discussed in arguments of rich thoughts, abounding in pertinent illustrations, adorned with grace and beauty of language scarcely equalled, and enforced by strong and striking appeals to the heart and conscience. Few who heard it will forget its vivid pictures of the beneficial influence of Christianity, or the tasteful and impressive delivery of the truthful sentiments. It was emphatically worthy of the pastor, who, in two short years, had led this little flock from their retired "upper chamber," to a large place and to abounding prosperity; and it was also worthy of the membership, who had kept up his hands and encouraged his heart, amid trials to themselves and obstacles to his labors.

The society which has just given this church to God deserves honorable mention for Christian liberality and energy—I had almost said heroism. They commenced with 23 members, who had been connected with the Chestnut and Power street charges, in Oct. 1848, at a time when Methodism was too nearly stationary in Providence. They were prayerful and resolute, and determined to occupy more of the good land, if not hindered by God himself. For man's opposition they cared little, and were willing to defy and brave it. Bro. W. Liversee was with them the first six months, and so profited them that he left them more than double that heroic band, who first pitched their tent and "set up their banners in the name of their God." These were Bro. Patten, and about two years ago, now they are praising the God of Abraham in a house owned by Methodism—certainly as chaste and elegantly beautiful as anything of the kind in New England. It is every way worthy of the progressive spirit of the church and age; in its external proportions it is an ornament to the city, and in its internal arrangements and furnishings, so neat and admirable as to leave no room for captious cavil or vague desire. The cushioned settees are really an enchanting invention; the pulpit, the organ, the carpets, the modes of ventilation, everything in short is calculated to attract and impress all with the idea that nothing is too good for God's service. The brethren have expended \$28,000, and the sale of pews Wednesday afternoon realized \$24,000—an event as rare as it is admirable in their energy and liberality. The members are all "in love and fellowship with their neighbors," and happy are they and the pastor whom God has given them.

ROBERT ALLEN.

East Greenwich, May 29.

LETTER FROM CINCINNATI.

The Springfield—Association of Naturalists—Against Florida Reefs and Keys—Geology.

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 24, 1851.

MR. EDITOR:—Thinking that your many readers may desire to learn something of what is transpiring here, I have once more taken pen in hand for a familiar gossip. The spring has been exceedingly cold and backward, and late frosts have almost entirely destroyed all kinds of fruit. Strawberries have appeared in the market, but they are not plenty, nor as fine as last year. This is probably the greatest strawberry market in the United States; 500 bushels have been seen in market at one time. I have myself counted over 200 bushels in a single market in one day. Other fruits and vegetables, such as are common in Massachusetts about the last of June, are now found in our markets. I have said that the spring was cold and backward; this cold weather continued till about the middle of May; since then, it has been extremely warm; the thermometer ranging from 85 to 92 during the last ten days, in the shade; this you will perceive, is a pretty fair summer heat. As the warm weather sets in, a constant stream of people leave the city for summer travel and residence in the country. I presume 20,000 will leave the city during the summer. The health of the city is good, and there is no cholera; there have been a few cases occurred on the river below, but only, I believe, among immigrants, and where extreme destitution might be the exciting cause. We feel as if we should be freed from the dreadful scourge this season. Still, there will doubtless be many cases through the extreme heat of summer.

The American Association of Naturalists have held their session during this month in the city. I had intended to give your readers a sketch of their proceedings, but the numerous interesting topics that came up for discussion rendered it impossible to do anything like justice to them. Many of the most distinguished men of the country were present. The department of Geology and Paleontology was unusually important and interesting. The fossils from the Silurian formations of this region, which were exhibited in several collections, struck with amazement our Eastern men. Agassiz declared that more rare and new fossils were here presented than had been presented at all their previous meetings; indeed, more than he had ever seen at the similar meetings in France, Germany, Switzerland or England, and that it was impossible for them to make any report in full upon them. There were not merely new varieties of species, but new species, yes, many new and entire genera of these fossils; and with few exceptions, and those rather similar than identical, they were entirely different from those of European formations of the same character.

One of the most interesting communications was made by Prof. Agassiz, concerning the reefs and keys of Florida. These he said were entirely of coral formation, yet differing from the peculiar coral formations of the Pacific. Parallel with the coast of the mainland, around the Southern part of Florida, is a barrier of coral rising in States, Germany, Switzerland or England, and that it was impossible for them to make any report in full upon them. There were not merely new varieties of species, but new species, yes, many new and entire genera of these fossils; and with few exceptions, and those rather similar than identical, they were entirely different from those of European formations of the same character.

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as any coast, for there were abundant entrances within the outer reef where a vessel would ride in safety. The water was yet deep between the two reefs; but as the lights are now placed, they rather allured the vessel on to the outer reef, than warned them of danger, and he thought, had been erected according to the suggestions of the wreckers. He had also examined the shore of the mainland, and found it to be simply a coral reef, which had doubtless been formed out in the sea like the present reef; this he thought had been the mud flat the Everglades. This he thought had been the mud flat between the reef and the main land, and formed like the present; and he thought that soon the reef would form the shore of the land, and the present mud flat become another everglade. He had examined a second ridge back from the coast, and within it another everglade of precisely the same character. These everglades were but little above water mark, and hence could not be drained. The whole coast of Florida seems to have been formed then by these successive reefs built out into the sea. But the important fact deduced was that no more could be formed. The lecture was illustrated very amply by the Professor. He has also just completed a course of lectures before the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, on the "Course of Creation as exhibited in the animal kingdom." I did not have the pleasure of hearing these, but they were said to be intensely interesting. It is astonishing to see how familiar Prof. Agassiz is with nearly all departments of natural history. He seems equally at ease when describing the great changes and their causes, which have given configuration to the continents of the earth, and the minute characteristics of microscopic animals.

Yours truly, E. S. LIPFITT.

TEACHERS FOR THE WEST.

The Board of National Popular Education has sent out two hundred and twenty-two female teachers from the East to the West, five of whom are in Oregon. It proposes to collect its tenth class at Hartford, Conn., on the 8th of August, and send them out on the 18th of September next. The intervening six weeks will be occupied in a course of preparation, under the charge of a competent female Superintendent. The course will embrace, among other things—examinations; lectures on the best methods of teaching; on the organizing of schools; on school government; on moral and religious instruction; on the influence of teachers in the community; on physiology as connected with the preservation of health; examination of the class upon the lectures; and discussions of the subjects of the lectures in the class; religious exercises and social meetings. Instruction will be given in vocal music. Model schools will be visited.

Ladies who desire to join the class, will address written applications to Miss Nancy Swift, of Northampton, Mass. They should be sent as early as the 4th of July, or sooner, if practicable. Each application should state the age, residence, and religious denomination of the applicant; and the branches in which she is competent to instruct, and the length of time she has been employed as a teacher; and should be accompanied by testimonials in regard to her education, capacity to teach, natural peculiarities, and moral and religious character. No other qualifications are required for the want of good sense, good temper, and decided piety. None need apply who are not ready to submit to an examination in the fundamental branches of an English education, and who have not had some experience in teaching. As education advances in the West, there is an increased demand for instruction in music on the Piano, and in other ornamental branches.

Applicants will have reasonable notice of their acceptance or non-acceptance. The accepted teachers will be expected at Hartford on the 8th of August. On their arrival, they will repair to the "Orphan Asylum," the building prepared for their reception, where they will have board in common with the superintendent, for which they will pay \$1.75 per week. In cases of decided merit, where there is a manifest inability to defray this expense, aid will be given from the funds of the Board. The course of instruction will be gratuitous. We shall defray their travelling expenses from Hartford to the place of their destination. If they shall, at any time, have the ability and desire to refund this, it will be held in pending out more teachers. They must distinctly understand that we expect them to continue teaching, at least two years, should health permit.

The teachers will be sent to places where arrangements will have been made for their reception and employment, with compensations which will, at least, give them a respectable support. The previous knowledge we shall have of the places, and the acquaintance we shall have formed with the teachers, will enable us to assign them positions to which they shall be found best adapted, and where they may be the most acceptable and useful. We desire to have them come into full sympathy with the great objects of our Board, and enter into the fields of labor assigned them, in the spirit of consecration to the work of doing good.

WILLIAM SLADE,
Cor. Secy and General Agent of the Board.
Cleveland, Ohio, May 29.

LITERARY ITEMS.

The following are the receipts of several of the leading secular papers in New York. The Herald puts down its cash receipts during the year 1850, at \$230,188; Tribune, \$160,000; Sun, \$120,000; Courier & Enquirer, \$160,000; Journal of Commerce, \$150,000. The Herald says its receipts will probably reach an aggregate of \$300,000; the business of all these establishments is said to be good—yielding an annual profit of from \$30,000 to \$50,000 each.

Ohio Wesleyan University opened its present term, a few days ago, with over three hundred students; and many more were expected.

The Northern Christian Advocate is publishing reminiscences of the life of Bishop Doane, by James Gilmore.

Speaking of the forthcoming memoir of Dr. Judson, and the expected return of Mrs. Judson, the Macedonian mail tells of her return. This delay will not retard the publication, for a large part of its most valuable materials could be supplied by no other person. Indeed, her assistance will be essential in almost every stage in the preparation of a biography which shall worthily delineate the character and labors of the deceased."

"Holston Conference Female College," is the style of an institution proposed to be organized and located somewhere in Tennessee. The Holston Advocate urges that a large town be selected, because of its facilities for patronage. The town of Greenville had subscribed \$10,000, and there is a prospect that the college will be located there.

The Philadelphia Annual Conference has pledged to raise one-third of \$10,000 toward erecting a new edifice for Dickinson College, besides paying \$1,333.33 of the floating debt of the institution. The same Conference has also agreed to purchase and endow the Wesleyan Female College, at Wilmington, Del.

By the Illinois Advocate we learn that Rev. O. S. Mansell will take charge of the Methodist Seminary at Danville, Ill. This will be the third seminary on Danville district.

Messrs. Johnstone & Hunter, of Edinburgh, announce their intention shortly to commence the issue of a series of volumes, containing reprints of the principal treatises on the Romish Controversy. It will consist of twelve octavo volumes, four to be published annually, and the treatises will be severally edited, and accompanied with prefaces, notes, &c., by Rev. Drs. McCrie, Cunningham, Thompson, Vaughan, Steane, and Symington; Rev. William Arthur, Rev. R. P. Blakeney, and Rev. A. M. H. Seymour.

The Toronto (Canada) "Christian Guardian" says that for the present year all the public common schools of Toronto are to be free; and handbills had been generally posted throughout the city, informing the inhabitants of that fact.

Professor Kinkel, the celebrated German patriot, is lecturing in London on the Drama.

The following statement of expenditures in German Universities is from the "Bibliotheca Sacra":—"In 1836 the expenditures of the University of Berlin, were \$99,846, of which \$64,550 were paid out of the public treasury. Of Bonn were \$89,685, of which the Government furnished \$49,949. The expenditures of Breslau were \$72,299; of this the Government paid \$27,180. The expenditures of Halle were \$70,789; Govern-

ment paid \$42,278. Koenigsberg expended \$60,912, of which \$25,433 were furnished by the Government."

DR. AKENS' CHRONOLOGY.—The Illinois Advocate says: "The doctor is making progress with this great work; we hope it will soon go to press; next week we will furnish our readers a chapter from it."

MR. ELIHA BARRITT has suspended the publication of the Worcester Christian Citizen. The Citizen was in its eighth volume, and its list has been transferred to the New York Independent.

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE INTERNATIONAL, for June is a capital number; it contains engravings of Herbert Schoolcraft, Trenton Falls, Foucault's new proof of the Earth's Rotation, and a large table of rich contents. Its Literary and Art news is especially abundant and well prepared.—Redding & Co., Boston.

THE SOLITARY, OR THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE. Ticknor, Reed & Fields, Boston. This is a very interesting little volume from Saintine, the celebrated author of "Piccolino." It is designed to represent the absolute incompatibility of a solitary life with the constitution of human nature, and for this purpose takes the notable case of Alexander Selkirk, divests it of all the poetic and romantic fiction with which Defoe invested it, and makes out a picture of life in solitude which quite reverses the fascinations of Robinson Crusoe. The volume abounds in graphic descriptions, and natural scenes, and keeps alive the interest of the reader, though it concludes, we suppose designedly, without much of the convergence of effect—the denouement which usually makes the final interest of tales. It has been excellently translated from the French, by Anne C. Wilbur.

THE LADY'S REPOSITORY for June has been received by Peirce & Co., Boston. It has two plates—old ones, and not as good as usual—and an abundance of good original and selected articles. Among the original contributors are Prof. Larrabee and Wells, Hebron Vincent, Mrs. H. C. Gardner, and Alice and Phoebe Carey.

THE LAST WITNESS is the title of a little volume from the pen of Rev. Prof. O. C. Baker, A. M. It is a compilation of the dying sayings of eminent Christians and of noted infidels. They are exceedingly well selected, and forcibly presented. Our only regret in reading them is that they are too brief—and we almost wish that the poetical quotations were made to give place to fuller details of the cases. Many of these brightest examples are Methodists. The mechanical style of the work is exceedingly fine.—Peirce & Co., Boston.

STRAY ARROWS is the apt title of a small volume of essays and sketches by Rev. Theo. L. Cuyler, published by Carter, New York. They are quite varied in their subjects, vivid and graphic in style, and of a highly evangelical tone.—Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

THE HARMONY OF PROPHECY, or Scriptural Illustrations of the Apocalypse, is the title of another valuable work from the pen of Dr. Keith, of Scotland. His former treatises on Prophecy stand high among the Biblical productions of our day; the present volume is devoted chiefly to a comparison of the Apocalyptic predictions with other portions of the Scriptures, and an attempt in this manner to clear up the sense of the former. It is an exceedingly able production, and imbued with a devout spirit.—Harpers, New York; Messrs. G. & Co., Boston.

MIDNIGHT HARMONIES, by Rev. Octavius Winslow, is a little volume of precious meditations for seasons of sorrow and solitude—an illustration of the Psalmist's words, "In the night his song shall be with me."—Carter, New York; Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

WILKINS, CARTER & Co., Boston, have published two small volumes of music, entitled "School Chimes," and "The Palace of Industry, a Juvenile Oratorio." The latter is illustrative of the "Poetry of Labor," and is by J. C. Johnson, known to the musical public by several excellent productions. The former is a collection of songs and pieces designed for schools, juvenile classes, &c., by Baker & Southard, teachers of music in our grammar schools. They are excellent additions to the already large stock of our juvenile music.

WORDSWORTH. Ticknor, Reed & Fields, Boston, have sent us the first volume of the Memoirs of Wordsworth, by Rev. Dr. Wordsworth. It is designed to be chiefly an exposition of the intellectual and literary life of the great poet, by tracing very minutely the series of his productions, the circumstances under which they were produced, and the artistic principles observed by their author in their preparation. Such a work cannot fail to possess peculiar interest, though as the English critics affirm, it may fail of the usual incidental interest. Wordsworth's almost religiously retired and ideal life, could not in fact admit of much incident. The class of readers who best appreciate his poetry will find his memoirs none the less entertaining, and we think that the biographer has chosen about the only practicable method of writing his life. The mechanical execution of the American edition is excellent.

COBBIN'S Illustrated Domestic Bible. We have often called attention to Haeston's elegant edition of this superb work. It is now completed, and forms one of the most beautiful, and at the same time one of the cheapest editions of the Bible ever published here or anywhere. Its plates are numerous and are mostly real, not fancy, illustrations of the text. In fine Russian binding, gilt, it is sold at only \$1.00. We would call special attention to this work; all who want a good copy of the Holy Scriptures should examine it.—Redding & Co., Boston.

LONDON LABOR AND LONDON POOR. Messrs. Harpers continue to issue the numbers of this remarkable work. It is a terrible picture of the lower classes of London.—Messrs. G. & Co., Boston.

GOULD & LINCOLN, Boston, have issued a neat little volume, called "The Guiding Star, or the Bible God's Message." It is an excellent compend of the evidences of Christianity, in answer to the second and third questions of the Westminster Catechism, and is from the pen of Louisa Payson Hopkins, author of the "Pastor's Daughter," and other works.

AGRICULTURE FOR SCHOOLS, is a new school reading book prepared by Rev. Dr. Blake, and published by Newman & Co., New York. It is a compilation of articles on agricultural science from various authors, and forms quite an interesting compendium of rural literature.

INFLUENCE; a Sermon, by David Fosdick, Jr.—Redding & Co., Boston.

HARMONY OF LAW; a Lecture, by John R. Bolles.—C. R. Folgers, New London.

OUR BOOK CONCERN has recently issued a very interesting volume of "Memoirs of Missionary Labors in Africa and the West Indies, with Historical and Descriptive Observations," by Rev. Wm. Maister, who has been many years a Wesleyan missionary in those countries. The volume is replete with striking incidents and adventures. It illustrates the horrors of slavery and the success of the Gospel. We bespeak for it an extensive sale; it is just the book to interest our youth in missionary literature and the missionary enterprise.—Peirce & Co., Boston.

RELIGION THE WEAL OF THE CHURCH AND THE NEED OF THE TIMES, is the title of a new book lately issued by our Book Agents. It is from the pen of George Steward, whom we take to be an English Wesleyan preacher. It is certainly a remarkable production, pregnant with thought, but incorrigibly Latinized, resounding and almost rhythmical in style. In this respect it will be dangerously infectious to young readers. If you can suppose such a thing as the combination of the styles of Johnson and Robert Hall, without the loss of any peculiarity of either, you can get an idea of Mr. Steward's. The chapter on Methodism is an example.—Peirce & Co., Boston.

CHRISTIAN RETROSPECT AND REGISTER. We had just occasion sometime ago to complain of a work proposed to review the last half century. Its omissions of our own denominational doings within that period were quite egregious. We are happy to state that the present volume, prepared by Dr. Baird, is remarkable for both its impartiality and completeness. It is the best, and in fact the only retrospect of the past half of this century extant. It presents reviews of the progress of science, art, literature, religion, &c. Mr. Baird is peculiarly fitted to the task he has undertaken; no man in the country is more so.—Dodd, New York.

The Holston Christian Advocate reports a decrease in the membership of the Holston Conference, because of emigration from that region to Arkansas and Texas during six months past.

The Christian Advocate and Journal of the 8th inst. reports letters in Erie, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, New York East, Rock River, and Troy Conferences, and nine hundred conversions.

Rev. Dr. Boring writes to Bishop Andrew, from San Francisco, Feb. 25th, that a new edifice for the church South was about to be put up near that city.

GRAND EXCURSION.

Mr. Perham, of Boston, has the honor, we believe, of originating the system of cheap excursions. They are now becoming common, and by both their patronage to the public conveyances and their cheap and agreeable accommodation to the public itself, they promise to be a lasting and favorite expedient for summer relaxations. Mr. Perham's latest and largest project is an excursion to Niagara Falls. It will leave Boston on the 12th inst., from the Worcester Depot, via the Western Railroad to Albany; by railroad to Whitehall; by steamer to St. Johns, and thence by railroad and ferry to Montreal. From Montreal to Lewiston by a steamer, and by railroad to the Falls. The same route is taken on the return to Boston. The fare for the trip, going and returning, is only seventeen dollars from Boston. Persons are allowed to stop at Albany, Troy, Saratoga Springs, Montreal, and any town or city on the Lake or River. Persons wishing to visit Quebec can do so by paying \$2 extra. Twenty dollars are allowed to make the trip from the date of leaving.

Mr. Perham, we learn, has been over the route and made full arrangements for the comfort of the passengers. The route extends through some of the finest scenery of the "fashionable north," the time is almost the best of the year for the purpose—neither too warm nor too cool, and the terms are cheaper than any reasonable person could expect.

BROOKLYN.—The annual celebration of the *Sunday School* in this city took place on Tuesday of last week. The school of all denominations, including the Episcopal, was by themselves in one of their own churches. From the report of the committee on statistics we learn that the whole number of scholars was 64, teachers 1,287, scholars 9,502. Of the teachers 143 were church members, and 243 of the scholars. The schools are connected with the different religious denominations as follows: Methodist, 14; Episcopalian, 13; Presbyterian, 10; Dutch, 7; Mission schools, 7; Baptists, 6; Congregational, 6; German, 1; Orphan school, 1—Christian Advocate.

A SUPERB ORGAN.—From the Providence Journal. The organ which was the subject of the organ, on Friday evening last, to be present at the opening of the new organ, in the Methodist church just erected in Mathewson street.

The organ was played on this occasion by the eminent Organist, Messrs. S. A. Bancroft, of Boston, and William Field, of this city.

This instrument was built upon the German plan. The compass of manuals being from C to G, pedals C to G, gamut G. The style of architecture in the facade, is Norman, the wood part being of pine and painted in imitation of rosewood.

From the great reputation which the builders of this instrument have acquired elsewhere, much was expected from this, their only specimen in this city, which expectation was not disappointed.

The *Diapasons* are remarkably good, possessing the body of tone belonging to Appleton's, and with a quality and purity peculiar only to the instruments of Messrs. Simmons and Co., the builders of this organ.

The red stops have probably never been exceeded, the quality and power of the Trumpet being a just medium between the harshness incident to excess of power of the real Trumpet when blown with great force, and the dulness of the same Trumpet when blown with medium power.

The flauts have more expression and sweetness than any we remember having heard of. The harmonies stops are beautifully proportioned, and when the full power of the instrument is played, appear to great advantage, the flauts being perfectly adapted to the power of their foundation stops.

The full organ is decidedly vocal in character, and resembles more nearly the effect produced by a multitude of human voices, than any other organ, than anything we have ever heard.

The instrument contains a new and very peculiar stop called the "Edolma," which when used as a solo or in combination with other stops, produces an indescribably rich and beautiful effect.

We congratulate the congregation on their acquisition of so fine a specimen of art, and trust that hereafter churches when purchasing organs will not be so much influenced in their decision by the price and size, as by the quality and character of the instrument they procure.

General Intelligence.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.—The steamship North America arrived at New York on Monday night. She brought 400 passengers, and \$800,000 in specie and gold dust. Steamships Union, Oregon and Republic had arrived at Panama. The Union brought 200 passengers and \$150,000 in gold dust; and the Republic 200 passengers and \$1,000,000—in all \$2,500,000, besides what is in the hands of the passengers—probably \$1,000,000 more. The steamship Empire City, from Chagres 25th ult., arrived at San Francisco to May 1, 350 passengers, and two millions of dollars in gold dust. Advice from the Sandwich Islands are to the 29th of March. A temporary treaty had been agreed upon by the French commissioner and the Hawaiian authorities, and there was a prospect of permanent peace between the two countries.

LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.—The two houses of the Legislature adjourned on Tuesday morning last, to the second Wednesday of January next, after a session of nearly three weeks.

During the brief period the Legislature has been together, it has, in addition to organizing its own bodies, seen the Government in motion by the election of the necessary officers, and made regulations for carrying on its work; besides passing upon many important measures of a general character. Among them is a bill providing for the reconstruction of the Maine Hospital, and appropriating \$20,000 towards that object.

Also a resolve making an appropriation of \$20,000 towards the erection of the Reform School at Portland. Also a resolve making an appropriation of \$9000 to repair the State Prison at Thomaston.

Also a resolve making appropriations for the repair of various roads in Aroostook county.

And the passage of a bill of an exceedingly stringent character—besides the passage of numerous other bills and resolves of greater or less importance.

—Augusta Advertiser.

THE MASSACHUSETTS BLOCK.—The Massachusetts block for the Washington Monument, ordered by the Legislature of 1851, is now completed, and may be seen at the quarry in Quincy. It is an unadorned and flawless slab of granite, six feet square and fourteen inches thick, and weighs three tons. Within a circle five feet in diameter are sculptured in bold relief the arms of the State, viz: an Indian chief, with a tomahawk in the right hand and an arrow in the left, and underneath a scroll bearing the motto—"Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem." On the base, in large characters, is stretched out "Massachusetts." It is the work of T. & W. Smith, who were originally marble carvers, and they were employed exactly a year in getting out the block and finishing the figures. The cost will be \$3000. The Legislative committee, both branches celebrated the completion of the work by a dinner at the Hancock House, Quincy, a few days ago.

GREAT FRESHET AT THE WEST.—Cincinnati, June 6. Accounts from the Western river are exceedingly gloomy. The Wisconsin River is very high. A large portion of Fort Winnebago is inundated. The rise has not reached so far as the junction of the Wisconsin with the Mississippi. Several flourishing mills of Wisconsin have been swept away. Advice from St. Paul state that the river from above was still rising. The Burlington (Iowa) Gazette of the 29th of May says that the tributaries of the Mississippi in that State are greatly swollen, and that much damage has already been sustained. The Mississippi, at that point, is within 18 inches of the great flood of 1844, and is still rising. At Hannibal, on the 29th, the river was rising, and was six miles wide upon an average, from 7 miles above to 50 miles below that point.

The Chicago Tribune gives accounts of very heavy rains in Illinois. On the Illinois river bottoms, and along the streams of many of its tributaries, numerous fields are several feet under water. They will of course have to be replanted. At Hannibal, on the extreme height of 1844, and it will doubtless rise still higher, as they were still having rains in that vicinity every day or two. The loss of property is immense throughout the whole Mississippi valley.

lately next year with the greatest pomp in all the cities and large towns of Russia.

Hon. Henry Ellsworth, in company with others, has just been entering at the Crawfordville Land Office, rising of twenty-eight thousand acres of the choicest lands of the Walsh county, and is about to have 5,000 acres put in actual cultivation.

The cholera has reappeared in the island of Jamaica.

The account of the death of Mrs. Alexander Hamilton is incorrect. The venerable lady is still living in her ninety-fourth year, and in the enjoyment of excellent health.

There have been some cases of cholera at Cincinnati.

Col. Benton has arrived in Washington, his health much improved. He will remain for several days, and then remove his family to Missouri.

The entire cost of the Erie Railroad is set down at \$20,500,000.

Dr. Samuel George Morton, one of the most eminent physicians of Philadelphia, and one esteemed highly by the medical world abroad, died on Thursday, Dr. M. was the author of several valuable medical works.

A letter appears in the *Intelligencer*, from Mr. Riddle, the American Agent to the World's Fair, giving a glowing account of the opening of the same, and speaking in the most flattering terms of the display of American articles there exhibited.

Northern Illinois is steadily gaining upon the Southern portion of the State. The population, as reported by the Congressional Districts, entitles the northern section of the State to two additional members of Congress.

A boy two years old, named James McGrath, was carried over Niagara Falls on Monday morning last. He was playing on a board, on the Canada side, in company with an older brother; their father saw them and chided the elder one, who suddenly jumped off, when the other was precipitated into the stream.

Heavy emigration is going toward Oregon this season, chiefly from Indiana, Iowa and Michigan.

John H. Gray, one of the Tehuantepec surveying party, and a man, were tortured by a shark while bathing in the Gulf of Mexico, near the mouth of the Rio de Atlix, Steadman & Co., Milk street, Boston.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

At Copenhagen a royal amnesty had been published, extending to all who had taken a part in the late revolt, excepting 33.

Letters from Constantinople announce the conclusion of an amnesty question. Kossuth and five others were to be excluded from his operation.

The French authorities are in the habit of transporting without the means of subsistence, to England. England sends her to America.

The Emperor of Russia, having nearly completed the railroad from St. Petersburg to Moscow (420 miles), is now about to begin a railroad from St. Petersburg to Warsaw, between 700 and 800 miles.

An Italian boy of 13 years of age, the only son of a poor shoemaker of Bologna, in defending his little dog from the attacks of a large dog belonging to an Austrian officer, killed the dog. For this, the poor lad was sentenced to receive 20 strokes of the bastinado; but at the 17th blow the child expired. This piece of cruelty so shocked the Emperor, that he became frantic; and, armed with a pistol, followed the Austrian officer to his coffee house and despatched him without interference from the bystanders, and then escaped.

The Jews' Conversion Society estimate that within the last twenty years 16,000 Israelites have embraced the Christian faith.

Some idea of the cost of royalty in England may be formed from the fact that the Prince of Wales, though under ten years of age, has a revenue of nearly \$300,000 per annum from the Duchy of Cornwall.

The ingenious mechanic, Mr. Sax, has contrived a new invention by which an immense volume of tone is added to the piano forte. He is taking out patents for France, Belgium and England.

Mr. Robert Stephenson, the eminent engineer, it is said, at the request of Abbas Pasha, is about to commence the construction of a railroad between Cairo and Alexandria, and to bring into close proximity the two principal cities of Egypt.

A tinman and brazer living at Thirk, Yorkshire, has made a copper teakettle out of a farthing, and intends to send it to the Great Exhibition. The kettle is turned inside, and is complete in every respect.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, at the Suffolk St. Church, 4th inst., by Rev. Thos. Street, Samuel Hancock, of Quincy, to Miss Martha Bailey, of Boston.

In Chelsea, June 4th, by Rev. Wm. Rice, Charles W. Freeman, of Boston, to Miss Mary A. Oliver, of Gardiner, Me. Also, John Wood, Robert Smith, of Quincy, to Miss Jane H. Horton, of Boston, to Miss Josephine B. Horton, of Boston.

In Ipswich, June 4th, by Rev. C. Shepard, Daniel R. Chase, of Ipswich, to Miss Lucy M. Akerman, both of Ipswich.

In Lowell, June 4th, by Rev. J. Denison, Daniel Smith, Jr., to Miss Catherine B. Marsh, both of Lowell.

In Lowell, June 4th, by Rev. J. Denison, Eliph Metzger, of Lowell, to Miss Anna Allen, of Westfield.

In Abbeville, June 10th, by Rev. M. Webster, Mr. Alan C. Malin, of Boston, to Miss Anna L. Leavitt, of Abbeville, Me. Also, by the same, May 22d, Warren C. Marble to Miss Mary A. Leavitt, of Abbeville, Me.

In Winchester, N. H., June 1st, at the Methodist Church, John H. Thayer, of Winchester, to Miss Fanny A. Snow, both of Winchester.

In Portland, June 20th, by Rev. W. McDonald, Philander J. Clever, of Portland, to Miss Sarah S. Babson, of Portland.

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NOTICE.—The Trustees of the Maine Annual Conference are hereby notified that they will meet at the residence of Rev. J. M. H. at 7 o'clock, P. M., on the 5th of July, next, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

NOTICE.—The district delegates on the Concord District are hereby notified that they will meet at the residence of Rev. J. M. H. at 7 o'clock, P. M., on the 5th of July, next, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

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